

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 SCA-01 OES-03 SAB-01 H-02 VO-03

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3724

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 2461

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMGT, CFED, PN, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED US-GOP AGREEMENT ON STRI

REF: STATE 92677

1. PRIOR TO SENDING NOTE QUOTED IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF
REFTEL, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING DEPARTMENT
CONFIRM ITS UNDERSTANDING OF FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) STRI PERSONNEL IN REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, AS
EMPLOYEES OF SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, AN
INSTRUMENTALITY OF USG, WILL COME UNDER
GENERAL AEGIS AND POLICY DIRECTION OF
AMBASSADOR BUT WILL NOT FORM INTEGRAL PART
OF THIS DIPLOMATIC MISSION. EMBASSY WILL NOT
REQUEST INCREASE OF ITS OPRED CEILING TO
ENCOMPASS STRI.

FYI: PRESENT LEVEL OF STRI STAFF CONSISTS OF 77 EMPLOYEES
OF WHICH 23 ARE US CITIZENS AND 54 ARE PANAMANIAN AND
THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS. PERSONNEL PROJECTIONS ENVISION
STRI STAFF IN 1980 AT LEVEL OF 120-150 PERSONS. END FYI.

B) SHOULD GOP CONCUR IN ESTABLISHMENT STRI
OFFICE IN PANAMA, STRI WILL DEAL DIRECTLY
WITH GOP AGENCIES AS STIPULATED IN AGREEMENT.
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C) STRI WILL NOT BE DEPENDENT ON EMBASSY FOR ANY ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES. ASSUME MINISTRY OF HEALTH WILL ARRANGE FOR CUSTOMS EXONERATION AND OTHER PRIVILEGES SET FORTH IN PROPOSED NOTE.

D) PROPOSED NOTE DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY FOR STRI PERSONNEL; THEY REMAIN SUBJECT TO JURISDICTION OF GOP COURTS, ETC.

2. DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTED NOTE MAKES NO REFERENCE TO NOTES EXCHANGED BETWEEN EMBASSY AND FONOFF IN 1972 ON SAME SUBJECT NOR TO EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION BETWEEN STRI, EMBASSY AND GOP REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF STRI OFFICE IN PANAMA. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND INTRODUCTION OF DRAFT NOTE ACCORDINGLY.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE AN EARLY REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE.

JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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